

REMARKS/ARGUMENT**Regarding the Claims in General:**

Claims 49-84 are now pending. Claims 1-48 have been canceled without prejudice. Claim 49 broadly corresponds to original elected base claim 22 and has been written to better highlight the broad features of the invention. This claim has not been added to distinguish over prior art, and is not intended to be of narrower scope than original claim 22.

In view of the foregoing, favorable consideration and allowance of this application are respectfully solicited.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to (571) 273-1827 and addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 22, 2004:

Lawrence A Hoffman
Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

Lawrence A Hoffman
Signature

January 22, 2004
Date of Signature

LAH:sk

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence A Hoffman
Lawrence A Hoffman
Registration No.: 22,436
OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP
1180 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036-8403
Telephone: (212) 382-0700